COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY JUDGMENT

2. Venue is proper pursuant to 28 U.S. C. § 1391, as a substantial part of the events described herein occurred in this judicial district, and Defendants are subject to personal jurisdiction in this judicial district.

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PARTIES

- 5 6
- Plaintiff is a California Limited Liability Company, with its principal place 3. of business in Los Angeles, California.

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Plaintiff manufactures and distributes high quality toys and other goods. 4.

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5. On information and belief, WEM is a Limited Liability Company existing under and by virtue of the laws of Canada, and is closely held and controlled

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6. On information and belief, WEM has offices in California in the cities of

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Alameda and Oakland and conducts substantial business in the State of

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California, and in this Judicial District.

by Defendant Sgromo.

14 15 7. On information and belief, Peter A. Sgromo is the President and Founder of WEM, is a resident of the State of California, and conducts substantial

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business in the State of California, and in this Judicial District.

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- 8. Plaintiff is ignorant of the true names and capacities of Defendants sued herein as Does 1 to 5, inclusive, and therefore sues these Defendants by such fictitious names. Plaintiff will amend this complaint to allege their true names and capacities when ascertained, together with such other allegations as may be appropriate.
- 9. On information and belief, all Defendants sued herein as Does are in some manner responsible for the acts herein alleged.
- On information and belief, at all times mentioned herein, each of the Defendants, including the Defendants named herein as Does, were the alter ego, agent, and/or employee of each of the remaining Defendants and in doing the things mentioned herein were acting within the scope of such agency and/or employment.

CONTROVERSY

- 11. This Complaint includes a claim for declaratory judgment relief pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §2201 and §2202, in which the Plaintiffs desire a declaration of rights in the form of a judgment against the Defendants.
 - 12. An actual controversy exits between the Parties, in view of Defendants' February 17, 2011 email to Plaintiff, which alleges that Plaintiff is infringing Defendants' Patent and which threatens Plaintiff with litigation.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

- 13. On February 6, 2009, Plaintiff and Defendants entered into a License Agreement ("the Agreement") in which Defendants licensed to Plaintiff the "3D Shark Bite Water Slide" invention (hereinafter referred to as the "3D Shark Slide"). A true and correct copy of the Agreement is attached to this Complaint as Exhibit 1.
- 14. Plaintiff developed the 3D Shark Slide and filed U.S. Patent Application No. 12/327,760 ("the '760 Application") on the 3D Shark Slide. Sgromo was one of the named inventors of the '760 Application.
- 15. From 2009 to the present, Plaintiff has manufactured, distributed, and sold the 3D Shark Slide, and has paid royalties on sales of the 3D Shark Slide, under the terms of the Agreement, to Defendants.
- 16. Part 7 of the Agreement specifically provides that Plaintiff "has the right, in its sole discretion, to modify" the 3D Shark Slide, and sell the modified product under the terms of the Agreement.
- 17. On September 14, 2010, the '760 Application received an Office Action from the USPTO rejecting all of the claims of the Application. The Office Action concluded that the '760 Application was obvious in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,046,440 ("the '440 Patent"), issued to Kaehr, in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,482,510, issued to Ishii. A true and correct copy of the '440 Patent is attached to this Complaint as Exhibit 2.

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- 18. On information and belief, Defendants had actual knowledge of the September 14, 2010 Office Action and were aware that the '760 Application was rejected in part based on the '440 Patent.
- 19. On information and belief, on December 20, 2010, three months after the '760 Application received the Office Action rejection, title of the '440 Patent was transferred to Defendant WEM.
- The transfer of the '440 Patent was Recorded with the USPTO in an 20. Assignment on January 3, 2011. A true and correct copy of the USPTO Assignment Webpage showing the transfer of the '440 Patent to Defendant WEM is attached to this Complaint as Exhibit 3.
- 21. In or about January 2011, Defendants started manufacturing, distributing, and selling an inflatable pool with a three-dimensional graphic on the pool ("3D Lagoon Pool"), which was developed by Defendants as a modification to the 3D Shark Slide.
- 22. On February 17, 2011, Defendants sent a cease and desist letter via email to Plaintiff accusing Plaintiff of infringing the very recently acquired '440 Patent. A true and correct copy of the February 17, 2011 email is attached to this Complaint as Exhibit 4. The February 17, 2011 email alleges that both the 3D Lagoon Pool and 3D Shark Slide infringe the '440 Patent.
- 23. In the February 17, 2011 email, Defendants also threaten to contact Plaintiff's customers regarding the alleged infringement.
- 24. Defendants conclude the February 17, 2011 email with the threat that, should Plaintiff refuse to alter its alleged infringing activity, Defendants will enforce their patent rights to "their full extent."
- 25. Plaintiff is under a reasonable apprehension of lawsuit from Defendants because Defendants have: (1) alleged that two of Plaintiff's current products, the 3D Shark Slide and the 3D Lagoon Pool, infringe the '440 Patent; (2) threatened to contact Plaintiff's customers regarding the

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infringement allegations; and (3) threatened to file a lawsuit against Plaintiff for infringement of the '440 Patent.

- Plaintiff denies that any of its products infringe any claim of the '440 Patent, 26. or any other Patent allegedly owned by Defendants. As such, an actual controversy now exists between Plaintiff and Defendants, as to their respective rights and responsibilities with respect to the '440 Patent.
- To resolve the legal and factual questions raised by Defendants, and to 27. afford relief from the uncertainty that has precipitated, Plaintiff is entitled to an order stating its rights under 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201-02, that its services, business practices and products do not infringe any patent allegedly owned by Defendants, and/or that the '440 Patent is invalid and/or unenforceable.

CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Declaratory Judgment of Non-Infringement of U.S. Patent Number 7,046,440)

- An actual controversy now exists between Plaintiff and Defendants, as to 28. their respective rights and responsibilities with respect to U.S. Patent No. 7,046,440 ("the '440 Patent"), and any other patents foreign or domestic that claim priority from the filing of the '440 Patent.
- Defendants have alleged that Plaintiff has committed certain acts that 29. infringe the '440 Patent, and Plaintiff denies that any of its products infringe any claim of the '440 Patent.
- 30. To resolve the legal and factual questions raised by Defendants and to afford relief from the uncertainty that has precipitated, Plaintiffs are entitled to an order stating its rights under 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201-02, that its services, business practices, and products do not infringe any patent allegedly owned by Defendants, and/or that the '440 Patent is invalid and/or unenforceable.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF 1 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays the following relief and judgment be granted 2 against Defendants, as follows: 3 A. For a judicial determination and order declaring that none of Plaintiff's 4 products infringe any patent allegedly owned by Defendants, and/or that the 5 '440 Patent is invalid and/or unenforceable. 6 B. For an order enjoining Defendants and their agents and attorneys from 7 further asserting patent rights against Plaintiffs and/or its customers. 8 C. For the recovery of Plaintiff's full costs and reasonable attorneys fees; and 9 D. For such additional and further relief in law and equity, as the court may 10 deem just and proper. 11 12 Respectfully Submitted, 13 HANKIN PATENT LAW, APC 14 Date: April 11, 2011 /Marc E. Hankin/ 15 Marc E. Hankin Attorneys for Plaintiff, 16 AQUAWOOD LLC 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

NOTICE OF ASSIGNMENT TO UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE FOR DISCOVERY

This case has been assig	med to District Jud	lge S. James	Otero and	the assigned	discovery
Magistrate Judge is Alicia G.	Rosenberg.				

The case number on all documents filed with the Court should read as follows:

CV11- 3046 SJO (AGRx)

Pursuant to General Order 05-07 of the United States District Court for the Central District of California, the Magistrate Judge has been designated to hear discovery related motions.

All discovery related motions	s should be noticed on the calendar	of the Magistrate Judge
	===========	
A copy of this notice must be served villed, a copy of this notice must be ser	NOTICE TO COUNSEL with the summons and complaint on all del rved on all plaintiffs).	fendants (if a removal action is
Subsequent documents must be filed	at the following location:	
[X] Western Division 312 N. Spring St., Rm. G-8 Los Angeles, CA 90012	Southern Division 411 West Fourth St., Rm. 1-053 Santa Ana, CA 92701-4516	Eastern Division 3470 Twelfth St., Rm. 134 Riverside, CA 92501

Failure to file at the proper location will result in your documents being returned to you.

United States District Court

for the

Central District of California

Aquawood LLC., a California Limited Liability Company	CV11-03046STOCAGPX)
Plaintiff)	,
Wide Eyes Marketing, LTD., a Canada Limited Liability	Civil Action No.
Company; Peter Sgromo an individual, and Does 1-5	
Defendant)	

SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: (Defendant's name and address)

A lawsuit has been filed against you.

Within 21 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you received it) — or 60 days if you are the United States or a United States agency, or an officer or employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) — you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney,

whose name and address are: Marc E. Hankin

Hankin Patent Law, APC 6404 Wilshire Boulevard

Suite 1020

Los Angeles, CA 90048

If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You also must file your answer or motion with the court.

		CLERK OF COURT
Date:	APR 1 1 2011	
		Signature of Cleve by Deputy Clerk

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Central District of California

Aquawood LLC., a California Limited Liability Company)	Q V 1 1 -	OZON	6 CT (4(2)
Plaintiff) ~		0204	6 STU(AGPX)
Wide Eyes Marketing, LTD., a Canada Limited Liability Company; Peter Sgromo an individual, and Does 1-5		Ci vil Action No.		gs-
Defendant)			

SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: (Defendant's name and address)

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whose name and address are:

Marc E. Hankin

Hankin Patent Law, APC 6404 Wilshire Boulevard

Suite 1020

Los Angeles, CA 90048

If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You also must file your answer or motion with the court.

		CLERK OF COURT
Date:	APR 1 1 2011	JULIE PREDAL
		Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA CIVIL COVER SHEET

	I (a) PLAINTIFFS (Check box if you are representing yourself II) Aquawood, LLC., a California Limited Liability Company,				DEFENDANTS Wide Eyes Marketing, LTD., a Canada Limited Liability Company; Peter A. Sgromo an Individual, and Does 1-5,					
	170505), HANKIN PATENT LA Suite 1020, Los Angeles, CA 90	W, APC	ing Attorneys (lf Known)				_		
II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION	(Place an X in one box only.)		TIZENSHIP OF PI			,	Only			
☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff			PTF DEF PTF DE				DEF			
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	■ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citiz of Parties in Item III)	enship Citizen	of Another State	nother State			□ 5			
		Citizen	or Subject of a Forc	ign Country 3	□ 3	Forcign Nation		□ 6	<u> </u>	
V. REQUESTED IN COMPLA	urt Appellate Court	Reopened	or 5 Transferre			Distr	rict Judg	cal to D se from istrate J		
CLASS ACTION under F.R.C.I		res Lyrivo (Cine				INT. C				
				EMANDED IN C	_			0.00		
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION (Cite 28 U.S.C. 2201, et seq.	the U.S. Civil Statute under whi	ch you are filing	and write a brief sta	atement of cause.	Do not ci	ite jurisdictional st	atutes unless divi	ersity.)		
VII. NATURE OF SUIT (Place	an X in one box only.)									
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OTHER STATUTES □ 400 State Reapportionment [CONTRACT	PERSONAL		TORTS		PRISONER PETITIONS	LAB ☐ 710 Fair La		dards	
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	☐ 130 Miller Act	□ 315 Airplan		Other Fraud		Vacate Sentence	□ 720 Labor/N			
	☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument	Liability ☐ 320 Assault	17 10	Truth in Lending		Habeas Corpus	Relation			
	☐ 150 Recovery of	Slander		Other Personal		General Death Penalty	☐ 730 Labor/N			
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and Corrupt	Judgment	Liability	y	Product Liability	340	Other	☐ 740 Railway			
	☐ 151 Medicare Act	□ 340 Marine	B. B.	ANKRUPTCY	□ 550	Civil Rights	□ 790 Other L			
☐ 480 Consumer Credit	☐ 152 Recovery of Defaulted	☐ 345 Marine Liabilit		Appeal 28 USC	□ 555	Prison Condition	Litigati	on		
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□ 892 Economic Stabilization Act □ 893 Environmental Matters □ 894 Energy Allocation Act □ 895 Freedom of Info. Act □ 900 Appeal of Fee Determination Under Equal Access to Justice	□ 220 Foreclosure□ 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	☐ 462 Natural Applica ☐ 463 Habeas	Corpus- Detainee mmigration		□ 690	Other	□ 870 Taxes (or Defe □ 871 IRS-Th USC 76	ndant) ird Part		
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AFTER COMPLETING THE FRONT SIDE OF FORM CV-71, COMPLETE THE INFORMATION REQUESTED BELOW.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA CIVIL COVER SHEET

VIII(a). IDENTICAL CASES: Has If yes, list case number(s):	this action been pr	reviously filed in this court an	nd dismissed, remanded or closed? ♥No □ Yes		
VIII(b). RELATED CASES: Have If yes, list case number(s):	any cases been pro	eviously filed in this court tha	it are related to the present case? ✓ No ✓ Yes		
IX. VENUE: (When completing the	Arise from the sam Call for determinate For other reasons we involve the same profollowing informate California County of	e or closely related transaction ion of the same or substantiall yould entail substantial duplic- atent, trademark or copyright, tion, use an additional sheet if putside of this District; State i	ly related or similar questions of law and fact; or ation of labor if heard by different judges: or and one of the factors identified above in a, b or c also is present.		
County in this District:*		,	California County outside of this District; State, if other than California; or Foreign Country		
Los Angeles (b) List the County in this District; (California County o	outside of this District; State is	f other than California; or Foreign Country, in which EACH named defendant resides.		
Check here if the government, it	s agencies or emple	oyees is a named defendant. I	If this box is checked, go to item (c).		
County in this District:*			California County outside of this District; State, if other than California; or Foreign Country		
			Canada		
(c) List the County in this District; (Note: In land condemnation ca			f other than California; or Foreign Country, in which EACH claim arose.		
County in this District:*			California County outside of this District; State, if other than California; or Foreign Country		
Los Angeles					
* Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernar Note: In land condemnation cases, us			San Luis Obispo Counties		
X. SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY (OR PRO PER):	/Marc E. Hankin/	Date April 11, 2011		
or other papers as required by law	. This form, appro	ved by the Judicial Conference	mation contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings e of the United States in September 1974, is required pursuant to Local Rule 3-1 is not filed ting the civil docket sheet. (For more detailed instructions, see separate instructions sheet.)		
Key to Statistical codes relating to So	cial Security Cases	K.			
Nature of Suit Code	Abbreviation	Substantive Statement of	f Cause of Action		
861	HIA	All claims for health insurance benefits (Medicare) under Title 18. Part A, of the Social Security Act, as amended. Also, include claims by hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, etc., for certification as providers of services under the program. (42 U.S.C. 1935FF(b))			
862	BL	All claims for "Black Lung" benefits under Title 4, Part B, of the Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act of 1969. (30 U.S.C. 923)			
863	DIWC	All claims filed by insured workers for disability insurance benefits under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended; plus all claims filed for child's insurance benefits based on disability. (42 U.S.C. 405(g))			
863	DIWW	All claims filed for widows or widowers insurance benefits based on disability under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended. (42 U.S.C. 405(g))			
864	SSID	All claims for supplementa Act, as amended.	al security income payments based upon disability filed under Title 16 of the Social Security		
865	RSI	All claims for retirement (old age) and survivors benefits under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended. (42 U.S.C. (g))			

CV-71 (05/08) CIVIL COVER SHEET Page 2 of 2